

C.1 INTRODUCTION

The United States Department of the Treasury, hereafter referred to as “Treasury” or “the Government”, awarded Northrop Grumman, formerly TRW, the Treasury Communications Services (TCS) Contract in 1995. The TCS Contract, which consists of a one-year base plus nine (9) one-year options was scheduled to expire in September 2005. However, the TCS Program has been extended until September 2007. This solicitation represents the requirements necessary to improve and optimize the network environment currently provided to the Treasury to meet its evolving business needs.

C.1.1 Background

The TCS Contract was designed to provide site-to-site data services for the Treasury by installing multiple high-speed networks to support applications that include upgraded e-mail, electronic commerce, security services, and videoconferencing. The requirements of the contract were later modified to include outsourced services from commercial carriers in place of installation of a private backbone network. Currently, Northrop Grumman is responsible, through the TCS Contract, for the oversight and management of multiple data communications carriers for service delivery, trouble resolution, and billing functionality.

The TCS Contract is a department resource that will provide data communications products along with a centralized network and management system. TCS is the largest private, secured civilian government network in the United States. There are currently over 1000 locations connected to TCS, supported by over 4200 circuits. The majority of the sites are in the continental U.S.; however, coverage also extends to other global locations including sites in Guam, Europe, Bermuda, and the Bahamas. Exhibit 1 below represents the current footprint of the TCS Network. Reference Section J, Attachment J-2 of this solicitation for a complete listing of the TCS sites as of February 2004.

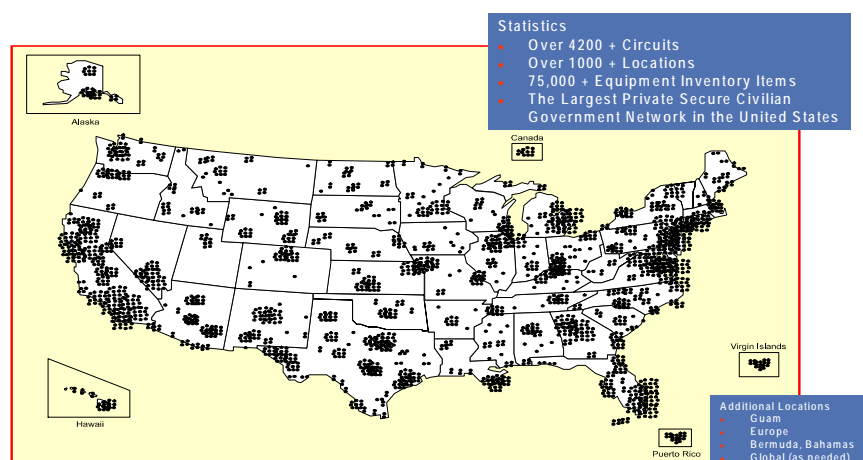


Exhibit 1: Department of the Treasury's TCS Network

The Treasury is seeking replacement and/or enhancement of services now provided through the TCS Contract. The contract awarded from this solicitation will replace TCS and has been assigned a new name, Treasury Communications Enterprise (TCE). The new TCE Contract shall replace the existing TCS Contract as an improved, cost effective, and technically responsive contract. TCE shall replace TCS prior to its expiration on **September 27, 2007**.

Treasury currently has multiple Bureaus with independent telecommunications networks, all of which are connected through a distributed hub-and-spoke architecture. A nationwide network connects multiple Government Bureau nodes through high-speed connections. In turn, the Bureau nodes connect to various Bureau offices. See Section J, Attachment J-3 for network architecture.

C.1.2 Strategic Direction

The TCE operational capability should be a framework for developing a Treasury-wide Secure Enterprise Network for enabling the convergence of data, voice and video technologies into a single network infrastructure that supports the efficient operation of applications and services across the entire Treasury operating environment. This converged communications transport framework will allow the Treasury and its Bureaus to build secure, robust, eGov-enabled business solutions. The desired operating capabilities for the Treasury-wide secure enterprise network are as follows:

- a) Allow for the operation of data, video, voice and other multimedia services across a single, common enterprise network infrastructure that supports both real-time [Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), video conferencing, etc.] and non-real-time applications
- b) Employ the latest network perimeter detection appliances and network access protection devices that will secure Treasury information and data from unauthorized access and intrusion both externally and internally
- c) Accommodate the deployment and integration of e-Government and Treasury-wide enterprise applications across the entire Department operating environment through standardization on Internet Protocol (IP)-based services while allowing for the operation of legacy environments, such as Systems Network Architecture (SNA), until the various business application modernization programs within the Treasury and its Bureaus have been completed
- d) Maximize the crisis and business operation of the Treasury and its Bureaus in times of disaster and national crises regardless of damage to the public switched telephone and telecommunications carriers' connection-oriented networks
- e) Reduce telecommunication infrastructures total cost of ownership through the deployment of a single enterprise network infrastructure and standardization on the internationally sanctioned Internet Protocol (IP) standards
- f) Support secure enterprise mobility via telecommuting and teleworking by providing secure, certificate-based remote access

The Contractor shall provide layer 3 VPN services to secure TCE network traffic passing across or point-to-point on the Contractor's managed network environment. The Contractor's encryption solutions shall possess the ability to support IPSec (in encapsulating security payload mode), Internet Key Exchange, and registered user portal/employee user portal (IRS) functions.

The Contractor's encryption solution shall support the automatic re-establishment of encrypted circuits in the event of an interruption in service.

The Contractor's encryption solution shall not inhibit the use of resilient or redundant hardware, routing, or firewall configurations.

The Contractor's encryption solution shall accept session establishment and authentication based upon industry standard authentication services.

The Contractor's encryption solution shall support Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) and Triple Data Encryption Standard (3DES) algorithms, as specified under the FIPS specifications

C.3.1.5 Secure Physical Assets

The Contractor shall ensure that its equipment and practices comply with all relevant Federal Government policies for protection of physical assets at each site. Refer to C.3.1.2.1, *Comply with Policies and Procedures*, for list of Federal Government policies.

C.3.2 Core Program-Wide Operations and Support Services (OSS) Requirements

C.3.2.1 Conduct Transition From TCS to TCE

A successful transition from the TCS network to the TCE network is absolutely critical to the Treasury and its Bureaus. The Contractor's approach to and execution of this transition will be the most important factor to the Government in evaluating the performance of the Contractor in the base period of this contract. The Government has identified three main features that the Contractor will provide for transition:

- a) Risk minimization and mitigation;
- b) No compromise of continuity;
- c) Strict adherence to the post-award schedule – neither ahead of nor behind schedule will be acceptable to the Government.

The Contractor shall consider seasonal impacts of each Bureau's mission such as, IRS tax season, the last two (2) weeks of September and the first two (2) weeks of October for FMS and BPD, and other similar critical periods for Treasury Bureaus in regard to transition and maintenance. Additionally, the Government expects the transition to be successfully completed **within nine months of notice to proceed.**

The Contractor shall agree to meet the SLAs for transition defined under Section F.

C.3.2.1.1 Develop Transition Plan

The Contractor shall prepare and implement a well-defined TCE Transition Plan with the Government's approval. However, the Contractor shall not proceed with transition prior to obtaining Government approval of the Transition Plan in its entirety or in part. The Contractor shall provide an initial Transition Plan with the proposal, which shall include a complete schedule for transitioning all Government sites from TCS to TCE. A final detailed Transition Plan shall be submitted to the Government for approval within 30 days of receiving notice to proceed. The Contractor shall coordinate its proposed sequence for transitioning sites with the Government and shall make adjustments to the sequence, at the Government's direction, prior to making the Transition Plan final. The Contractor shall work with the TCE Program Manager to modify the Transition Plan as needed.

The Transition Plan shall address the Contractor's general approach to and provide a detailed schedule of the proposed transition solution. The Transition Plan shall also define the Contractor's approach to staffing, progress reporting, coordination with third-party vendors, and customer education and communication. The Contractor's Acceptance Test Plan shall be included in the Transition Plan. Additionally, the Contractor shall identify all project management and planning tools that were used to develop the Transition Plan.

The Contractor shall define any pilot or ramp-up activities in the Transition Plan. The plan shall also identify potential risks and the Contractor's mitigation strategies for those risks. Additionally, the plan shall explain how system C&A will be executed in support of transition.

C.3.2.1.2 Conduct Site Surveys

The Contractor shall propose how it will capture site details as a part of the transition, and follow Government site access schedule and access requirements, which will be provided to the Contractor at contract award.

C.3.2.1.3 Transition or Replace Existing TCS Government Equipment

All Government owned TCS equipment will be provided to the TCE Contractor under exchange/sale authority. Any equipment the Contractor uses as part of TCE shall be operated, managed, and maintained at the Contractor's expense, and at no additional cost to the Government. In the event any equipment becomes inoperable, the Contractor shall replace the equipment as necessary to continue to provide seamless managed services under the contract. A list of TCS equipment is supplied in Section J, Attachment J-4. See H.17 *Exchange/Sale*.

C.3.2.1.4 Implement Approved TCE Transition Plan

The Contractor shall implement the approved TCE Transition Plan and shall complete successful transition all Government sites from TCS to TCE **within nine months of notice to proceed.**

C.3.2.1.5 Conduct Weekly Status Meetings

During the transition period, the contractor shall coordinate and support weekly status meetings with the Government. During such status meetings the Contractor shall, at a minimum, present to the Government accomplishments, issues, and potential risk areas. The Contractor shall work with the Government's Transition Manager to coordinate facilities and attendance.

L.5 Proposal Schedule

All proposals are due NO LATER THAN 2:00 P.M. Eastern Standard Time on **December 1, 2005**. (CAUTION: See the proposal submission instructions, including the provision describing treatment of late submissions, notifications and withdrawals of proposals at FAR Clause 52.215-1 Instructions to Offerors—Competitive Acquisition).

If the Offeror elects to forward the offer by means other than U.S. Mail, he assumes the full responsibility of insuring that the offer is received at the place and by the date and time specified in this solicitation. Such proposals must be closed and sealed as if for U.S. Postal mailing.

The Bid/Mail Room (5th Floor) is open from 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. EST, workdays to accept proposals. Delivery to any other location may result in the late receipt of the proposal in the bid/mail room or possible mishandling and is strongly discouraged.

L.5.1 Communications And Questions

Communications and questions concerning this solicitation or requests for clarification shall be made in writing to the Contracting Officer either electronically as described below or in hardcopy and submitted to the address identified in L.4 above. All requests will be answered electronically and provided to all Offerors on the Internet at <http://www.procurement.irs.treas.gov>.

The table below depicts the dates for communications and questions concerning the RFP:

Topic	Submission Date
Questions	October 27, 2005
Proposals Due	December 1, 2005

As soon as an Offeror is aware of any problems or ambiguities in interpreting the specifications, terms or conditions, instructions or evaluation criteria of this solicitation, the Contracting Officer shall be notified.

Electronic submission of questions and comments shall be submitted via the TCE mailbox at AWSS.TCE@irs.gov. Electronic mail attachments, if included, shall be prepared using Microsoft Office.

When submitting questions and comments, please refer to the specific text of the RFP in the following format:

Subject: RFP No. TIRNO-04-R-00001
Reference: RFP Section ____, Paragraph(s) ____, Page(s) ____

SOLICITATION NO. TIRNO-04-R-00001
PART IV – REPRESENTATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS
SECTION L – INSTRUCTIONS, CONDITIONS, AND NOTICES TO OFFERORS OR RESPONDENTS

Summary Sheet for Cumulative Target NAICS SDB Data by Category

(Note: All Summary Data shown on this sheet must reflect data for Base Year Performance and all option years.)

SUMMARY DATA:

Category I - Prime Contractor Target NAICS SDB Costs:	
Total Estimated Dollar Value of Category I Costs in Target NAICS Codes	\$ _____
% of Total Estimated Contract Costs	\$ _____
Category II - Joint Venture/Partnerships/Team Members Target NAICS SDB Costs:	
Total Dollar Value of Category II Costs in Target NAICS Codes	\$ _____
% of Total Estimated Contract Costs	\$ _____
Category III - Subcontractor(s) Target NAICS(s) SDB Costs:	
Total Dollar Value of Category III Costs in Target NAICS Codes	\$ _____
% of Total Estimated Contract Costs	\$ _____
Total Estimated Dollar Value of Category I, Category II, and Category III costs shown above	\$ _____
The total of Category I, Category II, and Category III costs shown above represent _____ % of total Estimated Contract Costs	_____ %

Tab G – Financial statements

The Contracting Officer will conduct a responsibility assessment of each offeror being considered for award. The following information shall be submitted to assist the Contracting Officer in making a responsibility determination:

(a) Sufficient information to demonstrate the financial capability to perform a contract of this size and duration, including the ability to transition and implement the TCE. The Offeror shall provide information related to its current financial condition and the sources of all funds that will be used to finance contract performance. Indicate dollar amount, names and telephone

The model shall contain **ALL** of **the 1040 sites** that are listed in the data tables, even when these sites are duplicates (duplicate site entries represent sites where more than one Treasury Bureau resides). The model shall reflect the fact that there **are 84 Category 1 sites, and 83 Category 2 sites, and 873 Category 3 sites.**

The model delivery order shall be provided in Microsoft Excel. Each page of the model delivery order, when printed, shall contain the facility code column, column headings, and a minimum font of Arial 10.

L.11 CONTENT OF RESULTING CONTRACT

Any contract awarded as a result of this solicitation will contain Part I - The Schedule, Part II - Contract Clauses, and Part III - List of Documents, Exhibits and Other Attachments. Part IV - Section K - Representations, Certifications, and Other Statements of Offerors, will be incorporated into the resulting contract by reference. Blank areas appearing in these sections are to be completed by the Offeror or will be filled in by the Contracting Officer after negotiations have been completed.

L.12 ALTERNATE PROPOSALS

Alternate proposals will not be considered. However, Offerors may propose alternate solutions to individual requirements that do not change the overall approach or intent of the TCE Program and offer cost-savings to the Government.

(End of Section)